

What is Claimed is:

1. An integrated graphical user interface for a process control environment, the interface comprising:
 - interface graphics and separate functions for operations, maintenance configuration, simulation and management functions of a process plant,
 - real-time interfacing functions for operations, maintenance configuration, and simulation functions,
 - the interface providing real-time display more than one of operations, maintenance, configuration and simulation functions.
2. The interface of claim 1 further comprising translation of raw data into operational animations and operational trends and graphical displays of said operational animations and operational trends.
3. The interface of claim 2 further comprising graphical presentations of maintenance requests, maintenance reports and supervisory reports.
4. The interface of claim 1 further comprising one or more of the following functions: panel motor start/stop buttons, status indications, chart recorders, annunciator panels, subsystem interfaces and combinations thereof.
5. The interface of claim 1 further comprising one or more of the following functions: alarm management, process parameter adjustment by entry of

process parameters, zoom in viewing of portions of the process for enhanced detail viewing, utilization of specialized applications related to the process.

6. The interface of claim 1 wherein the interface can run in dedicated and non-dedicated modes.

7. The interface of claim 1 wherein the interface can run as a rich client or as part of a browser style interface utilizing web services.

8. The interface of claim 1 wherein the interface can run on one or more of a workstation, a laptop, a PDA, and a smart phone.

9. The interface of claim 1 wherein the interface supports a dedicated mode for a fixed display arrangement.

10. The interface of claim 1 wherein the interface supports a non-dedicated mode for use by configuration personnel.

11. The interface of claim 1 wherein the interface supports multiple user interface devices.

12. The interface of claim 1 wherein the interface supports one or more of: integrated voice and video; real-time data services; external data services; XML files; access to other service interfaces; composite structure process graphics; class-based control hierarchies; integration of control, alarming, and abnormal

situation management and prevention; integrated batch operator interfaces; integrated advanced control operator interfaces; route management; efficiency calculations; optimizations; mass and energy balances; integration of third party applications; multiple data collection systems (DCS) and combinations thereof.

13. The interface of claim 1 wherein the interface receives displays and other applications to be loaded into a runtime workspace.

14. An integrated graphical interface providing seamless graphical displays for operation, maintenance, configuration, and simulation functions on multiple workstations of a control system, the interface comprising:

tracking functions for tracking which displays are used on which workstations in the system, and

the interface providing real-time display more than one of operations, maintenance, configuration and simulation functions.

15. The graphical interface of claim 14 further comprising a linking function for linking data from outside sources.

16. The graphical interface of claim 14 further comprising means for using data from outside sources.

17. The graphical interface of claim 14 further comprising means for defining plant standards, means for locking said plant standards, and means for distributing said plant standards amongst multiple workstations of the system.

18. The graphical interface of claim 14 further comprising scalable graphics.

19. A machine readable medium having instructions stored thereon that, when executed, cause a machine to:

provide seamless graphical displays for operations, maintenance, configuration, and simulation functions on multiple workstations of a control system and providing real-time display more than one of operations, maintenance, configuration and simulation functions,

provide tracking functions for tracking which displays are used on which workstations in the system,

provide real-time interfacing functions for operation control and maintenance personnel.

20. The machine readable medium of claim 19 having instructions stored thereon that, when executed, cause the machine to provide fully scalable graphics with abilities to rotate the graphics and make portions of the graphics transparent.